IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Bastiaan Driehuys, et al.

Group Art Unit:

To be assigned

Serial Number:

To be assigned

Examiner:

To be assigned

Filing Date:

Herewith

Title:

Diagnostic Procedures Using Direct Injection of Gaseous Hyperpolarized ¹²⁹XE and Associated Systems and Products

First Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, which is a divisional of application number 09/804,369 filed March 12, 2001. This application also claims the priority benefit of United States provisional patent application number 60/189,072 filed March 13, 2000.